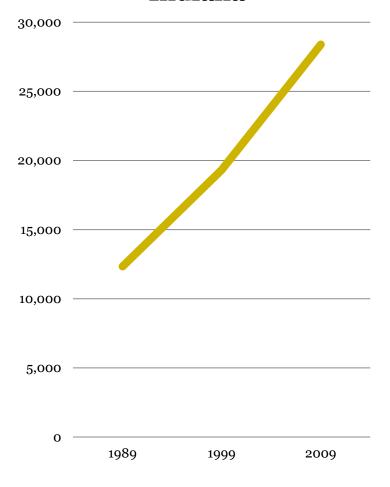
# The Economic Impact of Recidivism

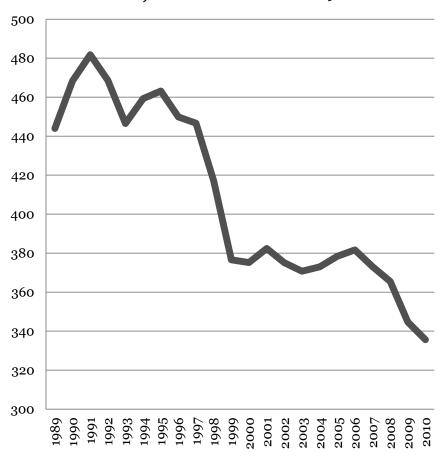
A PRESENTATION TO THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL RE-ENTRY STUDY COMMISSION

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## Prison Population in Indiana



# Indiana Crime Rates (Per 10,000 Residents)



## Recidivism in Marion County

#### From a recent study:

- 51.6% of prisoners released from state institutions are returned to prison within three years
- o This is higher than the state average of 37%
- 56% of those returning to prison are sent back to prison as a revocation of their parole or probation
- Of those sent back on a violation, 74% are returning to prison without having committed a new offense

## **Policy Implications**

- Each of these categories speaks to policy implications
  - The decision to return people to prison when they have not committed a new offense
  - How to provide reentry support so those wanting to avoid criminal activity have legitimate opportunities
  - The availability of effective and affordable treatment programs
  - How could the funds be otherwise allocated if we can reduce the prison population

### Justice Reinvestment

- Focus on individuals most likely to reoffend (risk assessment)
- Base programs on science and ensure quality implementation (drug treatment, supervision combined with treatment, prison education programs)
- Implement effective community supervision policies and practices (graduated sanctions, motivational interviewing, motivational techniques)
- Apply place-based strategies (high-crime places, million dollar blocks, supervision where they live, embedded services, family engagement)

#### Justice Reinvestment Profiles

#### Michigan

- From 1998-2008, corrections spending increased by 57%, and was 22% of state budget
- National violent crime rates declined by 8% during the same period, but violent crime rates remained unchanged in Michigan

## Impact in Michigan

They recently closed 8 prisons in their state

#### Justice Reinvestment Profiles

#### Texas

- In 2007, after dramatic growth in their prison population, the state faced needing to spend another \$500 Million to expand prison capacity
- Over the previous 10 years:
  - Probation revocations increased 18%
  - × There was a shortfall in space for substance abuse and mental health treatment in the community
  - Approvals for parole release were not following recommendations from Parole Board, resulting in more than 2,000 offenders staying in prison

## Impact in Texas

- Parole revocations decreased 29%
- Probation revocations decreased 3%
- Prison populations decreased by more than 1,000 despite projections it would increase by more than 5,000 if the changes had not been made
- Significant expansion in availability of drug treatment and mental health treatment

#### Justice Reinvestment Profiles

#### Kansas

- Kansas was notable as the state with the highest proportion of new admissions to prison that were the result of technical violations (65% of those entering prison)
- The vast majority of those returning to prison had substance use violations and no access to evidence-based treatment programs

## Impact in Kansas

- Since the changes took place:
  - Probation revocations declined by 16%
  - Parole revocations declined by 34%
  - Projected increases in prison population have been avoided

## Nonsuspendible Sentences

- For a one-year period for Marion County:
  - 688 offenders sentenced to DOC for D Felony and nonviolent C Felony cases in which part of the sentence was nonsuspendible
  - o Resulted in the use of 179,384 bed days
  - The total cost for these incarcerations was \$9.3 Million

## Performance Incentive Funding

- Provides financial incentives at the local level if community-based treatment programs are designed and used rather than sending the offender to prison
- Tied to outcomes

#### **Education in Prison**

- Research evidence is clear that increased educational attainment is related to reduced likelihood for recidivism
- We have abandoned non-vocational college programs for prisoners in this state
- We have significant numbers of offenders spending time in prison and not achieving their GED
- Programs that are available are not necessarily available to scale so that the majority of offenders can benefit